



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

HN

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/894,413	06/28/2001	Jy-Jine James Lin	STL920000095US1	6888
47069	7590	06/06/2005	EXAMINER	
KONRAD RAYNES & VICTOR, LLP			CHAVIS, JOHN Q	
ATTN: IBM54			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
315 SOUTH BEVERLY DRIVE, SUITE 210				
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212			2191	

DATE MAILED: 06/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/894,413	LIN ET AL.	
Examiner		Art Unit	
John Chavis		2191	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 January 2005.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                            2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/03/02

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kukura et al. (6,453,320).

**CLAIMS:**

1. A method for implementing a workflow comprised of nodes, comprising: generating a workflow packet accessed by users at the nodes in the workflow',

receiving a request to add one target object in one of a plurality of data stores to the workflow packet, wherein each data store includes multiple objects',

determining a first object identifier of the target object that is used to

See the title of the invention and the abstract.

See fig. 5 and col. 2 lines 20-30.

see col. 2 lines 38-46.

identify the target object in one data store;

generating a second object identifier indicating the data store including the target object and the first object identifier', and

inserting the generated second object identifier into the workflow packet, where nodes accessing objects in the workflow packet use the second object identifier to access the target object for use at the node.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the data stores are capable of being different types of data stores and from different vendors.

3. A method of performing an Input/Output (I/O) operation on an object during execution of a workflow comprised of nodes, comprising: providing a plurality of objects stored in one of multiple data stores, wherein each object is identified within the data store with a first object identifier', providing a workflow packet referencing at least one object with a second object identifier, wherein the second object identifier indicates one of the data stores and the first object identifier of the referenced object in the data store',

4. The method of claim 3, wherein one workflow packet is associated with a plurality of the nodes in the workflow, and wherein the nodes submit I/O requests for one or more objects referenced by the second object identifiers in the workflow packet.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein

see col. 2 lines 47-55.

see col. 4 lines 1-3.

This feature is considered inherent via col. 4 lines 3-9.

See the rejection of claim 1 above.

See the rejection of claim 1.

See the rejection of claim 2.

the data stores are capable of being different types of data stores and from different vendors

6. The method of claim 3, further comprising: defining at least one work item for each node including a reference to the workflow packet, wherein the work item includes actions to perform with respect to at least one object in one data store referenced in the workflow packet, and receiving 1/0 requests from multiple nodes for objects referenced by second object identifiers in the workflow packet.

See col. 3 line 57-col. 4 line 9.

7. The method of claim 3, wherein the 1/0 request comprises a workflow 1/0 request, wherein each data store is accessed using data store interfaces further comprising: providing a mapping of workflow 1/0 requests to the data store interfaces for each of the data stores, wherein each workflow 1/0 request maps to one or more data store interfaces for each data store, wherein the data store interfaces implement the workflow 1/0 requests in the data store; and determining from the mapping the at least one data store interface for the determined data store that implements the workflow 1/0 request in the determined data store, wherein the workflow 1/0 request is performed using the determined at least one data store interface.

See the rejection of claim 6.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the data stores are capable of comprising different types of data stores from different vendors that utilize different sets of data store interfaces to enable access to objects in the data stores, and wherein the mapping enables the

See the rejection of claim 2.

workflow 1/0 requests to be executed across heterogeneous data stores.

9. The method of claim 3, wherein the objects in the data store are capable of comprising documents, video files, audio files, and images.

10. The method of claim 3, further comprising: receiving a request, from at least one node, to add one second object identifier to the workflow packet referencing one object in one of the data stores that is not already referenced in the workflow packet, wherein subsequent nodes in the workflow are capable of accessing the object referenced by the added second object identifier.

11. The method of claim 3, further comprising: receiving a request, from at least one node, to remove one second object identifier in the workflow packet referencing one object in one of the data stores, wherein subsequent nodes in the workflow will not be capable of accessing the object referenced by the removed second object identifier.

12. The method of claim 3, wherein the 1/0 request comprises a request to perform one of reading, writing or opening to the target object.

Kukura's system is considered capable of comprising various types of documents also, or an "assortment of plug-ins, see col. 6 lines 61-66.

See the rejections above, see col. 5 line 45-51.

This feature is considered inherent since mapping is "determiner at runtime", see col. 3 line 57-col. 4 line 1.

See col. 4 lines 62-67.

The features of claims 13-24 and 25-36 are taught via claims 1-12 above. The system of claims 13-24 is indicated via fig. 1 and the article of manufacture is indicated via col. 1 lines 5-9, which is stored in the database (repository) of fig. 1.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Chavis whose telephone number is (571) 272-3720. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Tue & Th-F, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Dam can be reached on (571) 272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

jc



John Chavis

Primary Examiner